

This *WEEK* in the Missouri *HOUSE*

Volume 1, Issue 4

February 11, 2008



Committee Updates...

- The Higher Education Committee heard a bill (HB 1315) which would establish the Emily Brooker Higher Education Sunshine Act defining intellectual diversity for reporting purposes at public higher ed. institutions. (2.05.08)
- The Special Committee on General Laws began to hear testimony on a resolution (HJR 52) that proposes a constitutional amendment abolishing the nonpartisan Judicial Commission and establishing a bi-partisan judicial merit selection commission. (2.05.08)
- Special Committee on Immigration heard several bills, including one (HB 1626) which would prohibit certain illegal aliens from receiving public assistance benefits. The committee also passed HB 1463, which would prohibit the admission of unlawfully present aliens to public institutions of higher education. (2.06.08)

Floor Action...

The following bill was perfected

- HB 1661 - reinstates a tax break that allows Kansans working in Missouri to deduct their Kansas property taxes from their Missouri income taxes. (2.06.08)

The following bills were third read and passed

- HB 2019 - \$46 million for the University of Missouri for the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center at the Columbia campus and a Pharmacy and Nursing Building at the KC campus. (2.07.08)
- HB 2020 - \$16.4 million for various capital improvement projects. (2.07.08)

Did you know?

The present Capitol, completed in 1917 and dedicated in 1924, cost \$4.2 million to build, including site and furnishings.

Replacement costs vary but are many times the original cost of the building, ranging up to \$105 million if art work costs are considered.



More Committee Updates...

- Elementary and Secondary Education Committee passed HB 1314, the Amy Hestir Davis Student Protection Act. (2.06.08)
- Ways and Means heard additional property tax related bills, including HB 1766, which would require counties to accept quarterly payments of real and personal property taxes. (2.07.08)

Salute to Black History Month:

- In 1920, Walthall Moore from St. Louis was elected to the House becoming the first African American to serve in the Missouri legislature.
- In 1960, DeVerne Lee Calloway was the first African American woman elected to the House.
- In the 1960s, 13 members of the General Assembly formed the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus.
- Today, nearly 20 African Americans serve in Missouri's legislature.

House Actions as of 2/11/08 9:00 a.m.

# House Bills Filed 2008	786
# House Bills Referred to Committee 2008	339
# House Bills Reported Do Pass 2008 (Including Consent)	22
# House Bills Perfected 2008	6
# House Bills Third Read 2008	5

Upcoming Dates of Interest

- March 13 - Spring break begins
- March 25 - Spring/Easter break ends - Reconvene at 4:00 p.m.
- April 1 - Last Day for Introduction of Bills
- April 15 - Deadline for Senate consent bills to be placed upon the consent calendar
- May 9 - Appropriation Bills must be Truly Agreed and Finally Passed - 6:00 p.m.
- May 16 - Session Ends - 6:00 p.m.

Photo of the Week

Speaker Pro Tem Pratt, R-55 (right) talks with Judge Teitelman proceeding the State of the Judiciary address given by Missouri's Chief Justice

